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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,279	03/12/2004	John Norman	200314055-1	1323
22879	7590	06/01/2005	EXAMINER	
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400				DUONG, HUNG V
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2835		

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.	10/800,279	
Examiner	NORMAN ET AL.	
Hung v. Duong	Art Unit 2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

### A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- This action is FINAL.  This action is non-final.
- Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
  - Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - All
  - Some
  - None of:
    - Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    - Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
    - Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.

- Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- Notice of Informal Patent Application
- Other: \_\_\_\_.

HUNG VAN DUONG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claims 5-6 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Claim 5 cannot depend on claim 6 or claim 6 cannot depend on itself.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4, 8-9, 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sutton et al (US Pat. 6,504,710)

Regarding claims 1, 4, 8-9, 11-16 Sutton et al disclose a coupler 88 for releasably fastening a computer peripheral device 10 to another device 80, the coupler comprising: a first portion 84 operable to engage the computer peripheral device 10;

and a second portion 130 operable to engage the other device 120; a connector 18 operable to mount the computer peripheral device 10 to the other device 80.

Regarding method claims 14-16, the structure device as mention above can perform the method claims.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-3, 5-7, 12, and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sutton et al (US Pat. 6,504,710) in view of Gramse et al (US 2005/0043769).

Regarding claims 2-3, 5-7, 12, and 17-18 Sutton et al disclose all the subject matter of the claimed invention except for the first portion is insertable into a complimentary connector of the computer and the second portion is insertable into a complimentary connector of the other device. However Gramse et al disclose the first portion is insertable into a complimentary connector of the computer and the second portion is insertable into a complimentary connector of the other device (see figure 3). Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify the first portion is insertable into a complimentary connector of the computer and the second portion is insertable into a complimentary connector of the other device of Gramse's coupler into Sutton's coupler in order to be fitted one device to the other device.

***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Trezza et al (US Pat 6,771,860) teach module mounted aligning optical connector..

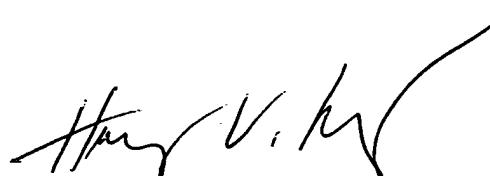
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung v Duong whose telephone number is 571-272-2041. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30 to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Field can be reached on 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HVD

05/26/05.



Hung Duong  
Primary Examiner.